HIS MAJESTIES DECLARATION CONCERNING LEWIES.

Charles R.

OUr expresse Pleasure is, That this Our Declaration be Published in all Churches and Chappels within the Kingdom of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*, by the Parsons, Vicars or Curates of the same.

A New Declaration of the Lords and Commons in Parliament, in answer to his Majesties Letter, dated the fourteenth of *June*, and sent to the Lord Major, Aldermen, and Sheriffs of the Citie of LONDON:

As also concerning His Majesties Declaration published at *Ashby de la Zouch*, Together with the Vindication of the Parliament from Scandals, which are cast upon them.

LONDON,
Printed for *M. Walbancke*, and *L. Chapman*. 1642.

HIS MAIESTIES ANSWER TO A PRINTED PAPER, INTITVLED;

A new Declaration of the Lords and Commons in Parliament, of the 21. of *June*, 1642. in Answer to His Majesties Letter dated the 14. of *June*, and sent to the Lord Major, Aldermen, and Sheriffes of the City of *London*.

IT seems by a new Declaration of the 21. of *June*, in answer to Our Letter of the 14. of the same moneth to the Lord Major of *London*, that the Lords and Commons in Parliament have much more leasure then they pretend, or that those Persons whom We have before described in Our former Answer and Declarations, and of whom onely We would be understood to speak, think such Declarations and Votes to be such unresistable Engines of Batterie against Us and the Law, that no strength can oppose them; And therefore though they will take notice from whence that Letter came, they will vouchsafe it no other mention, but of a *Paper* (as it is found by chance) *unscribed*, *To Our trustie and welbeloved, &c.* And it is worthy, that since they have usurped the Supream

Supreme Power to themselves, they have not taken upon them the Supreame Stile too, and directed this very new Declaration, *To their trustie and welbeloved, their Speaker, and the City of London*; For it is too great and palpable a scorn to perswade them to Take up Arms against Our Person, under colour of being loving Subjects to Our Office, and to destroy Us, that they may Preserve the King.

They are offended that we should believe, That their end of perswading Our Subjects to raise Horse, and to furnish Money upon pretence of a Guard for the Parliament, is in truth to imploy those Horse, Men and Money against Us: Let the reasons of Our belief be never so strong, and their Actions never so evident to compell all other men to believe so too, The Lords and Commons do declare (think what you will, and see what you can) *That the Designe of those Propositions for raising Men, Horse and Money, is to maintain the Protestant Religion, The Kings Authority and Person in his Royall Dignity, The free course of Justice, The Laws of the Land, The Peace of the Kingdom, and Priviledges of Parliament against any Force which shall oppose them*: And this all men are bound to believe, though they see the Protestant Religion, and the Professors thereof miserably reproached, and in danger of being destroyed by a vicious and Malignant Party of Brownists, Anabaptists, and other Sectaries, (the principall ring-leaders of whom have too great a power, even with some Members in both Our Houses of Parliament) Our Authority despised, and, as much as in them lies, taken from Us, and reviled in Pulpits and Presses by persons immediately in their Protection, and of their recommendation; and Our Person driven away by Tumults and rude multitudes, against whom We can have no Justice; The course of Justice interrupted and stopped by Orders and Injunctions never heard of till this Parliament; The Laws of the Land trampled under foot and frustrated, and new Laws attempted to be made and imposed upon Our Subjects without and against Our consent; The Peace of the Kingdom shaken and frighted away by discountenancing the Laws, absolving (as much as in them lies) the people from the Rules of Government or Obedience, and even declaring a War against Us and the Laws of the Land; And lastly, The Priviledges of Parliament so far extended, as if to the bare sound of *Priviledge of Parliament, The Liberty and Property of the Subject*, the dignity and certainty of the Law were in such subjection, that they may first make what Orders they please, and in what cases they please; And whosoever deputes those Orders, and submits not to those Votes, breaks their Priviledges, and whosoever breaks their Priviledges is an Enemie to the Common-wealth, and worthy of such other Attributes (either of favouring the Rebellion in *Ireland*, or advancing the War here) as are most likely to render that person suspected or odious to the People: If in truth this be evidently and demonstrably the case, such Declarations will no more gain credit with, or longer mis-lead Our Subjects, then if they should tell them, That We are personally with them in *London*, when all men see Us here at *York*.

As they have Declared (the best Argument or Evidence you are to look for) that all that they do is lawfull, because they do it; so they proceed, by the same power, to assure those, who are apt to be deceived by them, that the Force already

ready attending Us (they would certainly do otherwise if they did really believe such Force to be about Us) and the Preparation We are making, do evidently appear to be intended for some great and extraordinary Designe, and do justifie their former Votes of Our intention of Levying Warre against Our Parliament. And they have at last given some Reason for that Vote and Declaration; They finde by Our several Declarations that We intend force against those who shall submit to the Ordinance of the *Militia*, and that We intend to make an attempt upon *Hull*. In both which Cases they are pleased to declare, *That whatsoever violence shall be used either against those who exercise this Militia, or against Hull, they cannot but take it as done against the Parliament*. We are beholding to them that they have explained to all Our good Subjects the meaning of their Charge against Us; That by Our intention of making Warre against Our Parliament no more is pretended to be meant, but Our Resolution not to submit to the high injustice and indignity of the Ordinance, and the businesse of *Hull*. We have never concealed Our intentions in either of those particulars (We wish they would deal as clearly with Us) but have always and do now declare, That that pretended Ordinance is against the Law of the Land, against the Liberty and Property of the Subject, destructive to Sovereignty, and therefore not consistent with the very Constitution and Essence of the Kingdom, and to the Right and Privilege of Parliament; That We are bound by Our Oath (and all Our Subjects are bound by theirs of Allegiance and Supremacie, and their own Protestation lately taken, to assist us) to oppose that Ordinance which is put already in execution against us, not onely by Training and Arming Our Subjects; but by forceably removing the Magazines from the places trusted by the Counties, to their Own houses, and guarding it there with Armed men; whither it will be next removed and how used by such persons We know not.

That the keeping Us out of *Hull* by Sir *John Hotham* was an Act of high Treason against Us, and the taking away Our Magazine and Munition from Us was an Act of Violence upon Us (by what hands or by whose direction soever it was done) and in both Cases, by the helpe of God and the Law, We will have Justice or lose Our life in the requiring it, the which We do not value at that rate as to preserve it with the infamy of suffering Our Selfe to be rob'd and spoyled of that Dignitie We were borne to. And if it be possible for Our good Subjects to believe, that such a defence of Our Selfe, with the utmost power and strength We can raise, *is making a War against the Parliament*. We doe not doubt (however it shall please God to dispose of Us in that Contention) but the Justice of Our Cause will at the last prevaile against those few Malignant Spirits who for their owne ends and Ambitious Designes have so misled and corrupted the understandings of Our People, and that both Our Houses of Parliament will in short time discerne by their own Observation and the Information We shall speedily give them, how neere this Flourishing Kingdom is brought to ruine and confusion by these Persons.

And

And indeed neither Our Declaration, nor the Testimony of Many of Our Lords now with Us, can prevail with these Men; but that they proceed to Levie Horse, and to raise Money and Arms against Us, We are not to be Amazed, if after so many gracious Expostulations with them upon undeniable Principles of Law and Reason, which they answer only by Voting that which We say to be neither Law nor Reason, and so proceed actually to Levie War upon Us, to justifie (that which cannot be otherwise defended) at last We make such Provision, that as We have been driven from *London*, and kept from *Hull*, We may not be surprized at *York*; but are resolved upon no assault and bring to Justice those Men, who would persuade Our People, that their Religion is in danger, because We will not consent it shall be in their power to alter it by their Votes; or their Liberty is in danger, because We will allow no Judge of that Liberty but the known Law of the Land: yet what ever Provision We shall be compelled to make for Our Security, We will be ready to lay down as soon as they shall have revoked the Orders by which they have made Leavies, and submit those Persons who have detained Our Townes, carried away Our Armes, and put the *Militia* in execution, contrary to Our Proclamation, to that Tryal of their Innocence the Law directs, and to which they were borne. If this be not submitted to, We shall with as good a Conscience (and We believe We shall not want the affections of Our good Subjects to that end) proceed against those who shall oppose the execution of that prepared Ordinance for the *Militia*, and the other who keep Our Townes of *Hull* from Us, as We would resist persons who came to take away Our life or Our Crowne from Us.

And therefore We shall again remember and require Our Citie of *London* to obey Our further Commands, and not to be misled by the Orations of those Men (who are made desperate by their Fortunes, or their Fortunes by them) who tell them their Religion, Liberties, and Propertie is to be preserved no other way, but by their disloyalty to Us; That they are now at the banke of the River, and may draw their Swords, when nothing pursues them but their owne evill Consciences; that then examine what excellent fruits of Religion the lives of those Men have brought forth, and what great Advancers they have been of the Publike Liberties, and Properties; How long they have had those Opinions they would ruine them by defend; and how they came to those Opinions; Let them consider whether their Estates consist in them, and are suited upon them by Orders of both Houses, or by that Law which We Defend; What Security they can have for ever their Oath, which they have helped to Rob Us; And what an happie Conclusion that Warre is like to have; which is raised to oppresse their Soveraigne; That the Wealth and Glory of their Citie is not like to be destroyed any other way, but (and that way inevitably it must) by Rebelling against Us; nor their Wives and Children to be exposed to violence and villanie, but by those who make their Appetite and Will the Measure and Guide

to all their Actions. Let them not fancie to themselves Malecontented apprehensions, which are capable of no satisfaction, but let them seriously consider what securitie they can have, that they have not under Us, or been offered by Us; And whether the Doctrine these men teach, and would have them defend, doth not destroy the foundations upon which their securitie is built.

And We doe lastly declare against, and publish to all the World, That We shall proceed against all Persons whatsoever, that shall assist those Leavies, by furnishing of Horse, Money and Plate, as against the Disturbers of the Publique Peace, and the Authors of those Distractions which threatens the Ruine of Us and this Kingdom.

A Declaration of the *Lords* and *Commons* concerning a Paper directed by His MAJESTIE to the Lord Major and Sheriffes of *London*. Dated *June* 14. 1642.

WHereas in a paper inscribed to Our trustie and well-beloved the Lord Major, Aldermen and Sheriffs of the City of *London*, dated the 14. of *June* 1642. It is affirmed that great labour is used to perswade His Majesties Subjects to raise horse, and to furnish money upon pretence of a Guard for the Parliament, but in truth to be employed against His Majestie, The Lords and Commons do declare that the designe of those Propositions is, as was formerly declared, to maintain the Protestant Religion, the Kings authority and Person in his Royall dignity, the free course of Justice, the Laws of the Land, the peace of the Kingdom, and priviledges of Parliament, against any force which shall oppose them. And they do further declare, that as the Forces already attending His Majestie, and the preparation which His Majestie is now making of Arms, Horse, and Ordinance from within his Kingdom and without, at first coloured under the pretence of a Guard, do evidently appear to be intended for some great and extraordinary Designe, so they give just cause of fear and jealousie to the Parliament. And do fully justifie their Votes of the Kings intention of levying warre against the Parliament, to be altogether free from any imputation of scandall as is unjustly cast upon them by that Paper; For so long as his Majestie shall continue those Leavies and preparation. The Lords and Commons in Parliament, having been so often threatned and reviled for their proceedings about *Hull*, and the *Militia*, so necessarily undertaken for the good and peace of the Kingdom, they cannot be secured by his Majesties solemn Protestation alone, expressed in this and other Declarations, That all his desires and purposes are for the publike peace, and that he hath not the least thought of using force, except he be compelled to it for the defence of his Person and protection of the Laws, seeing

seeing his Majesty in a Declaration published at *Hamworth More*, doth interpret the protection of the Laws in such a manner as giveth just and full occasion to believe, that by protecting the Laws, his Majesty intendeth force upon or against those who shall fabrick to the Ordinance of the *Militia*, it appears by divers expressions of his Majesty, he hath discovered an intention of making some attempt upon *Hull*. And because in both which cases they do declare that whatsoever violence shall be used either against those who exercise this *Militia*, or against *Hull*, they cannot but take it as done against the Parliament.

And whereas the Houses have upon loan received great sums of money for the service of *Ireland*, from the Companies of the City of *London*, (for which they give them great and heartie thanks) They do declare that these sums shall be dispended as the former have been to that onely service. Notwithstanding an Insinuation laying an aspersion upon them as if they had done otherwise. Further, whereas it is declared to the great reproach of the Parliament, that the sums desired towards the raising of horse and Arms is contrived upon generall pretences by some few factious persons, we leave it to the World to judge how it is possible, the Houses should have all their Members, seeing divers of them are by his Majesty [illegible] and their company to the Laws of the Land, and priviledges of Parliament detained, may be protected from the Justice of both Houses.

And secondly, how that can possibly be called a Faction which is done by both Houses of Parliament, the greatest Court of *England*, the most faithfull Councell his Majesty hath. But at such language as this they wonder not, considering by what wicked counsell his Majesties affairs are guided. and by what malignant spirits his Majesties affections to the Parliament of late have beene misled.

Both Houses well weighing the premisses [illegible] Majors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, or other Officers whatsoever, to publish or spread that Paper, as they will answer their contempt to the Parliament. And doe assure themselves that neither his Majesties commands nor his threats will withdraw or deterre men well affected to the Publique from doing their dutie, in contributing such money, horse and plate, as will be necessary for the preserving the being of Parliament, the peace of the Kingdome, and those other ends before mentioned, for which they are desired. The dangerous and mischievous intentions of some about his Majestie being such, that whatsoever is most precious to men of conscience and honour, as Religion, Libertie, and Publique saletie, are like to be overwhelmed and lost in the generall confusion and calamity of the Kingdom, which will not onely question, but overthrow the Charter of the Citie of *London*, expose the Citizens, their Wives, and Children to violence and villany, and leave the wealth of that famous Citie, as a prey to those desperate and necessitous persons.

The Lords and Commons as they hope by this means those horrid Mischiefs may be prevented: So those of the Citie (which contribute hereunto)

whereof